#### RATES

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If the statements of the Oregon press mean anything it is not too much to say that Binger Herman is the leading candidate for the seat of the late Thomas H. Tongue in congress as rep resentative from the First district Numerous other gentlemen of excellent standing and fair party service are in the field, but, without disparaging their worthiness or ability for the place, Mr. Hermann certainly has a large advantage in his vast experience and superior grasp of the situation. Marion county thinks she has a winning candidate in Claud Gatch, a very worthy and excellent man, who, not having gone far into the mire of politics, is above reproach. B. L. Eddy, the risnig statesman of Tillamook, is favorably mentioned as a possibility. Lynn county has Percy R. Keliy up her sleeve, and will endeavor to secure for him the nomination. Then there are Harris; Davey, Kay, Miller, Brownell, Vawter and numerous others who might be induced to accept if their country demanded their services. But Hermann, from his long public service, well known record for producing results, and his very extensive personal acquaintance and general popularity, is easily picked out as the winner. His services are far more to be desired than those of any man merely of state experience, however good his record.

The time may not be at hand, but no future event in the ordinary course of affairs is more likely to transpire than the building of a railroad paralleling the Oregon and California coast. That such a road would be a dividend payer from the time it was opened for travel Is beyond a doubt. The immense lumber, coal, fishing, dairying, farming, stockraising and tourist interests to be served are not equalled in any other region in the world. The utmost (apacity of such a road would be taxed from the very start. If rumors are to be credited, long headed Jim Hill has an eye on the situation, but as yet only rumors are obtainable. There is a harvest awaiting the man who gath-

The action of the city fathers in declding to use crushed stone in the renewal of streets where such construction is practical will meet with general cracks at either corner of my lips were approval. The plan has been sufficiently tested by the county to insuce its success, and it may be said to be no annoyed me until warm weather set longer in experiment. It is safe to in. Nothing I could do had any effect predict that by the time Fourth, Fifth on it. I finally read about Doan's Oint-Seventh and Eighth streets have been macadamized and given a fair trial A few applications of this wonderful there will be little more demand for remedy cured it up completely and I street lumber where it is possible to use stone. This has been a long time in coming, but points to more stable and permanent conditions, and savors falo, N. Y., sole agents for the United of real progressiveness.

Our great steel trust represents one and a quarter billions of dollars. Can you comprehend that amount? This will give you an idea of its enormity: A billion minutes have passed since Christ was born. We do not know just when the billionth minute was passed but it was in the year 1902. And this is immediately employed. There's noth item gives one a fair idea of abillion. If the great steel trust was to divide liver or kidneys as Electric Bitton, It's the dollars it stands for there would be a dollar and a quarter to squander for



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every minute of the Christian era. It makes the head swim to contemplate such figures. \*

The bicycle craze is wane, much to the regret of the manufacturers. There were 300 bicycle factories in the United States in 1895. They produced 500,000 machines. These cost the users \$37,500,000. There were 800,000 bicycles made in 1896. In 1898 the membership of the League of Amer ican Wheelmen was 103,000; it is now 5380. In 1898 there were 50 papers devoted to cycling; now there is only one. Are the machines becoming too heap for the fad to continue popular?

This is the birthday of John C. Caleshoff the noted designer of fast sallcoats and Grover Cleveland, aged 66. twice president of the United States. Tomorrow celebrates the 43d birthday of William Jennings Bryan, the origmater of Bryanism, and the fifth anniversary of the start of the battleship Oregon on her famous trip around Cape Horn.

Government lands are passing into the hands of speculators at the rate of about 25,300,000 acres a year. At this rate it will not be long until cheap homes will be a thing of the past, and labor troubles will be superseded by a great cry for a division of large

The cost of Alaska was \$7,200,000. Revenue exceeding \$9,000,000 has been received from the territory since the purchase, and the value of the products exported every year now from Alaska is about \$15,000,000, these being

In stilte of the extravagant appro decrease of \$5,969,605 for the last month by the treasury statement of March

The people of the United States las year smoked 6,900,000,000 cigars

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